

Claims

1. An ink container comprising a serial arrangement of three chambers, each chamber defining a member receiving volume to receive a negative pressure producing member to hold ink, the container defining an ink supply port for each chamber through which ink can be drawn from the chamber, the ink supply port of one of the chambers being displaced from alignment with the member receiving volume of that chamber.
2. An ink container as claimed in claim 1, wherein each member receiving volume is of the same width.
3. An ink container as claimed in claim 1 or claim 2, wherein each member receiving volume is of the same depth.
4. An ink container as claimed in claims 1, 2 or 3, wherein each member receiving volume is of the same height.
5. An ink container as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein each member receiving volume is rectangular viewed in the direction of insertion of a negative pressure producing member into the volume.
6. An ink container as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein each member receiving volume has an opening for insertion of a negative pressure producing member, the opening being covered by a lid.
7. An ink container as claimed in claim 6, wherein the openings are side by side in a straight line.
8. An ink container as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the ink supply port of the first chamber is displaced from alignment with the member receiving volume of the first chamber.

9. An ink container as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the ink supply port of one chamber is displaced to be aligned with the member receiving volume of another of the three chambers.
- 5 10. An ink container as claimed in claim 9, wherein the ink supply port of the first chamber is displaced to be aligned with the member receiving volume of the second chamber in the serial arrangement.
- 10 11. An ink container as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the outlets from the chambers are underneath the ink container.
12. An ink container as claimed in claim 11, wherein the ink outlets are at the same height.
- 15 13. An ink container as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the member receiving volume of each chamber includes a negative pressure producing member.
14. An ink container as claimed in claim 13, wherein the negative pressure producing members are identical.
- 20 15. An ink container as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the container has a manifold associated with the displaced output port chamber, the manifold having an inlet aligned with the member receiving volume of the chamber and an outlet displaced from alignment with the member receiving volume of the chamber.
- 25 16. An ink container as claimed in claim 15, wherein the manifold is a separate part to be attached to the main part of the container.
- 30 17. An ink container as claimed in claim 16, wherein the manifold contains a negative pressure producing member.

18. An ink container as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the ink container defines an ink fill hole for each chamber, the ink fill holes being provided in a common surface of the ink container and being in a serial arrangement, and being arranged on a notional straight line.

5

19. An ink container as claimed in claim 18, wherein the said notional straight line is parallel to the plane of one surface of the container.

20. An ink container as claimed in claim 19, wherein the said notional straight line is parallel to the plane of the major surface of the container.

10

21. An ink container as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the ink container defines a breather hole for each chamber, the breather holes being provided in a common surface of the ink container and being in a serial arrangement, being arranged on a notional straight line.

15

22. An ink container as claimed in claim 21, wherein the breather holes are arranged on a notional straight line which is parallel to the plane of one surface of the container.

20

23. An ink container as claimed in claim 22, wherein the breather holes are arranged on a notional straight line which is parallel to the plane of the major surface of the container.

24. An ink container as claimed in claim 21, 22 or 23, wherein the container further includes an element including a plurality of projections, each projection being received in a breather hole of the container.

25

25. An ink container as claimed in claim 24, wherein the element prevents the container from being fully engaged in a printer and at least part of the element is arranged to be removed to enable the container to be fully engaged in a printer.

30